



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mishra, et al.

Date Filed: March 15, 2002

Application No. 10/099,615

Title: Polymer Blends and Their Application as Viscosity Index Improvers

Examiner: Nathan M. Nutter

Confirmation No.: 4344

Art Unit: 1711

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Beth Earnest

(Print Name)

Beth Earnest

(Signature)

Response to First Office Action

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's First Office Action dated June 9, 2003. As noted on Page 4 of the Examiner's Letter, Applicants have elected without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group II (Claim 5) of the present application. No change in inventorship arises as a result of this election.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of elected Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is overcome by the arguments presented herein, placing the present application in condition for allowance. Applicants have amended the present application to delete Claims 1-4 and Claims 6 and 7, as they are drawn to a non-elected invention. The subject matter of Claim 5 is not disclosed by the references cited by the Examiner, as presented below.